

DELAWARE BOARD OF GEOLOGISTS

Amended MINUTES – September 1, 2005

Approved

The Delaware Board of Geologists held a meeting on Thursday September 1, 2005 at 10:00 a.m., in Conference Room B, Second Floor, Cannon Building, 861 Silver Lake Boulevard, Dover, Delaware.

PRESENT

William S. Schenck, Professional Member, President, Presiding
Mark Harvey, Public Member
Theodore Ressler, Public Member
Scott Blaier, Professional Member
Dana Long, Public Member
Allison Reardon, Deputy Attorney General
Ashley Stewart, Administrative Specialist II
Renaë Bailey, Office Manager, Division of Professional Regulation
Kay Warren, Deputy Officer, Division of Professional Regulation

ABSENT

Steven M. Smaller, Professional Member, Vice President
Stephen Williams, Professional Member

CALL TO ORDER

Mr. Schenck called the meeting to order at 10:11 a.m.

REVIEW OF MINUTES FOR APPROVAL

Mr. Blaier made a motion to approve the minutes of the August 5, 2005 meeting as presented. The motion was seconded by Mr. Long. The motion was unanimously carried.

NEW BUSINESS

Mr. Schenck welcomed Scott Blaier and acknowledged Mark Harvey as the newest Board members to the meeting. He further welcomed Ashley Stewart as the new Administrative Specialist for the Board. He discussed the importance of having new ideas from both the Public and Professional members.

Review of Application for Licensure by Reciprocity

Ricky Chenenko's application for licensure by reciprocity from Pennsylvania was reviewed by the Board. Mr. Ressler made a motion, seconded by Mr. Harvey, to approve Mr. Chenenko's application. The motion was unanimously carried.

Review of Draft Revision to 24 Del. C. § 3608 and § 3609

Ms. Reardon discussed the revision of § 3608. She stated that there should be a modification to this section; referencing the Boards review of applicants who have been the recipient of administrative penalties regarding his or her practice of geology. As currently drafted the statute creates a bar to licensure for anyone who is the recipient of an administrative penalty. The proposed revision would enable the Board to decide, after a hearing, if the penalty is grounds for refusal of a license.

An error was found in § 3609. The section will be replaced with "§3608(a)(4) through (6)" instead of "§3608(a)(4) through (7)" because subsection 7 does not exist.

Mr. Schenck made a motion, seconded by Mr. Blaier, to approve the modification and correction to the statute as indicated above. The motion was unanimously carried.

Old Business

Continued Discussion of Reciprocity Requirements

The Board discussed the requirements of an application through Reciprocity. They further explained that states are not considered substantially similar if their requirements are not equivalent to Delaware. A candidate may not meet all the requirements for Direct Licensure, but if he/she works in a state while they are licensed they may be accepted through Reciprocity.

The Board proposed to change §3609(b) of Title 24 of the Delaware Code, that it should read: "(b) An applicant, who is licensed or registered in a state whose standards are not substantially similar to those of this State, shall have practiced for a minimum of 5 years after licensure in the jurisdiction from which he or she is applying for licensure; provided however, that he or she meets all other qualifications for reciprocity in this section."

The proposed modification clarifies that the 5 years of practice experience necessary to qualify for licensure by reciprocity from a state that is not substantially similar must occur after licensure in the jurisdiction from which he or she is applying.

Mr. Schenck made a motion, seconded by Mr. Blaier to approve the correction and to delete subsection (c) of §3609 because it has no relevance to the reciprocity section of the statute. The motion was unanimously carried.

Evaluation of Credentials for Education Received Outside of the U.S.

The Board discussed the need for evaluation of equivalency of foreign education credits to those of accredited colleges and universities in the U.S. Applicants who received their degree outside the U.S. will need to have an organization complete an education equivalent evaluation. In § 3608(a)(1), it states that an applicant shall show evidence that they “received a degree from an accredited college or university with a major in Geology...” The Board proposed enacting a rule that will require applicants who are graduates of foreign colleges or universities to have their credentials evaluated by a credential evaluation service acceptable to the Board to determine equivalency to U.S. accreditation.

Ms. Reardon will be drafting up a proposed regulation pertaining to the credentialing of foreign education credits and bring it before Board at the next meeting.

Ms. Warren will be sending an e-mail to the staff to see what credentialing companies are used at the Division of Professional Regulation.

Mr. Schenck made a motion, to approve moving forward with a draft regulation for foreign credential evaluation, which was seconded by Mr. Blaier. The motion was unanimously carried.

OTHER BUSINESS BEFORE THE BOARD (for discussion only)

Ms. Reardon advised that the order for the Rules and Regulations changes on the ASBOG requirements, was published today and will become effective September 11, 2005.

PUBLIC COMMENT

There were no public comments

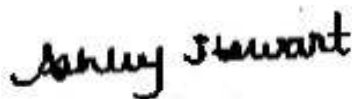
NEXT MEETING

The next meeting is scheduled for October 7, 2005 at 10:00 a.m. in Conference Room B, second floor of the Cannon Building, 861 Silver Lake Boulevard, Dover, Delaware.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, Mr. Ressler made a motion to adjourn the meeting. The motion was seconded by Mr. Schenck and unanimously carried. The meeting adjourned at 11:16 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Ashley Stewart". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Ashley Stewart
Administrative Specialist II